

CLAIMS

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1. A re-configurable interface used in modular electronic architectures comprising:
- at least one module for interfacing with the host to provide additional functionality to the host; and
- a configuration controller located in the host for reading at least one memory device located in the at least one module for providing configuration information to the host.
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2. A re-configurable interface as in claim 1, wherein the configuration controller self-extracts the configuration information from the at least one memory device after interfacing with the at least one module with the host.
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3. A re-configurable interface as in claim 1, further including a dedicated serial interface for exchanging information from the at least one memory device to the configuration controller.
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4. A re-configurable interface as in claim 1, further including configurable logic operating with the configuration controller for configuring a host interface to operate with an at least one module interface.
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5. A re-configurable interface as in claim 4, further including a plurality of connector pins at the host and at least one module that are electrically configured using the configurable logic.
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~~6. A re-configurable interface as in claim 1, further including a microprocessor for communicating with the configuration controller.~~

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7. A re-configurable electronic interface system for providing communication between a primary host device and a secondary accessory device comprising:

5 an interface controller including re-configurable logic associated with the primary host device;

at least one memory device associated with the secondary accessory device for communicating configuration information to the interface controller; and

10 wherein the interface controller sets the re-configurable logic of the electronic interface based on information from the at least one memory device for allowing compatibility between the secondary accessory device and the primary host device.

15 8. A re-configurable electronic interface system as in claim 7, wherein a plurality of electrical interface pins for connecting the primary host device and the secondary accessory device are configured according to the re-configurable logic.

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25 9. A re-configurable electronic interface system as in claim 7, wherein the interface controller self-extracts the configuration information from the at least one memory device.

30 10. A re-configurable electronic interface system as in claim 7, wherein the interface controller and at least one memory device communicate via a dedicated serial interface.

35 11. A re-configurable electronic interface system as in claim 7, wherein the interface controller communications with a microprocessor.

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12. A method of reconfiguring an interface used in a modular electronic architecture between a primary host device and a secondary module device comprising the steps of:

providing an interface controller associated with the primary host device;

reading configuration information from at least one memory associated with the secondary module device; and

setting configurable logic in the primary host device such that an electrical interface is established between the primary host device and the secondary module device.

13. A method of reconfiguring an interface as in claim 12, further comprising the step of:

configuring a plurality of pins in the interface to provide capability between the primary host device and the secondary module device.

14. A method of reconfiguring an interface as in claim 12, further comprising the step of:

self-extracting the configuration information from the at least one memory when the secondary module device is connected with the primary host device.

15. A method of reconfiguring an interface as in claim 12, further comprising the step of:

communicating between the interface controller and the at least one memory via a dedicated serial interface.

16. A method of reconfiguring an interface as in claim 12, further comprising the step of:

controlling the interface controller using a microprocessor.